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HOUSE MEMORIAL 8

46TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2004

INTRODUCED BY

Ben Lujan

A MEMORIAL

RECOGNIZING MARY GAVIN FOR HER OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO.

WHEREAS, Mary Gavin moved to New Mexico in 1951 with her late husband, Edward Gavin; and

WHEREAS, Mary Gavin and her family spearheaded the effort to stop the remarkable fossils discovered in New Mexico from leaving the state; and

WHEREAS, Mary Gavin lobbied the legislature for four years to construct and fund a state museum where all the fossils could be stored and displayed to the public; and

WHEREAS, in 1980, the legislature approved by a single vote the construction of the museum of natural history, which is the most visited museum in the state; and

WHEREAS, Mary Gavin served as a board member of the museum

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1 from its inception until 1993, when her contribution to the
2 museum was recognized by Governor Bruce King, who named her as
3 the state's first-ever trustee emerita; and

4 WHEREAS, a university of New Mexico professor named a
5 fossil, *Euconodoma gavinensis*, after Mary Gavin for her
6 unceasing years of work to establish the museum of natural
7 history; and

8 WHEREAS, Mary Gavin has been active in national and
9 international museum societies and has brought a major museum
10 convention to New Mexico; and

11 WHEREAS, Mary Gavin was honored for her contributions to
12 the state, joining a select group when she was named a Santa Fe
13 "Living Treasure"; and

14 WHEREAS, Mary Gavin won an award as New Mexico's woman of
15 the year; and

16 WHEREAS, Mary Gavin has written a book about her years on
17 the Pecos river ranch; and

18 WHEREAS, Mary Gavin was an active pilot and captain of the
19 women's polo team in college; and

20 WHEREAS, Mary's friends describe her as elegant, strong,
21 magical, indomitable, one of New Mexico's gems and a living
22 testimony to staying alive as long as you live;

23 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
24 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO that Mary Gavin be
25 recognized for her outstanding accomplishments and her

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1 contributions to New Mexico; and

2 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this memorial be
3 transmitted to Mary Gavin.

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